

What is claimed is:

1. A method of covering a potted plant comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of sleeves wherein each of the sleeves has an open upper end and an interior space, each of the sleeves being provided in a substantially closed position and openable to an open position, wherein each of the sleeves has a front side and a back side when in the substantially closed position;

providing a set of nested preformed pot covers wherein each of the preformed pot covers has a frustoconical shape and an interior space;

removing a sleeve from the plurality of sleeves and opening the sleeve to the open position so that the interior space is exposed;

removing a preformed pot cover from the set of nested preformed pot covers;

disposing the preformed pot cover into the interior space of the sleeve;

providing a potted plant; and

disposing the potted plant into the interior space of the preformed pot cover after the preformed pot cover has been disposed within the interior space of the sleeve, thereby forming a sleeved covered potted plant.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of bondingly connecting the potted plant to the preformed pot cover via a bonding material.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the bonding material is selected from the group consisting of adhesive materials, cohesive materials, heat sealable materials, sonic sealable materials, vibratory sealable materials, ties, labels, bands, ribbons, string, tape, staples, and combinations thereof.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing a plurality of sleeves, each of the sleeves is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of paper, foil, polymeric film, fiber, cloth, burlap and combinations thereof.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing a set of nested preformed pot covers, each of the preformed pot covers is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of paper, foil, polymeric film, fiber, cloth, burlap and combinations thereof.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing the plurality of sleeves, a height of the front side of each of the sleeves is less than a height of the back side of the sleeve, and wherein an area of the back side of the

sleeve formed by the differences in the height between the front and back sides of the sleeve is utilized in holding the plurality of sleeves and in opening the sleeve to an open position.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the steps of removing the sleeve and opening the sleeve to the open position, removing the preformed pot cover from the set of nested preformed pot covers, disposing the preformed pot cover into the interior space of the sleeve, and disposing the potted plant into the interior space of the preformed pot cover is performed automatically.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein two or more steps are performed automatically.

9. The method of claim 7 wherein all of the steps are performed automatically.

10. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of sealing the upper end of the sleeve to form a sealed sleeved covered potted plant.

11. A method of covering a potted plant comprising the steps of:  
providing a first preformed cover having an interior space;

automatically removing a second preformed cover from a set of nested preformed covers, the second preformed cover having a frustoconical shape and having an interior space and being constructed of a material different than a material from which the first preformed cover is constructed;

automatically disposing the second preformed cover into the interior space of the first preformed cover;

providing a potted plant; and

disposing the potted plant into the interior space of the second preformed cover after the second preformed cover has been disposed within the interior space of the first preformed cover.

12. The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of bondingly connecting the potted plant to the second preformed cover via a bonding material.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the bonding material is selected from the group consisting of adhesive materials, cohesive materials, heat sealable materials, sonic sealable materials, vibratory sealable materials, ties, labels, bands, ribbons, string, tape, staples, and combinations thereof.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein, in the step of providing the first preformed cover, the first preformed cover is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of paper, foil, polymeric film, fiber, cloth, burlap and combinations thereof.

15. The method of claim 11 wherein, in the step of removing the second preformed cover from a set of nested preformed covers, the second preformed cover is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of paper, foil, polymeric film, fiber, cloth, burlap and combinations thereof.

16. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of disposing the potted plant into the interior space of the second preformed cover is performed automatically.